

Literacy Links

Volume IV, Issue 5

December 2003

Coming Events:

- SC Literacy Conference
Charleston
December 15, 16
www.myschools.com
- SCCTE Conference
Greenville
January 30-31, 2004
www.sccte.org
- SCIRA Conference
Myrtle Beach
February 19-21, 2004
Registration deadline is
January 16, 2004
www.scira.org

For information about these programs, please refer to the November issue of *Literacy Links* or check for updates in this issue. Past issues of *Literacy Links* can be found on the State Department's web page at www.myschools.com.

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ELA Standards and Assessment 2004 Workshops

The Office of Curriculum and Standards and the Office of Assessment are pleased to announce a series of one-day workshops on the various state English language arts (ELA) assessments and the use of those assessments to inform instruction. The workshops will be held from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Columbia Conference Center according to the following schedule:

Date	Topic
January 28, 2004	HSAP
January 29, 2004	PACT, Grades 6-8
February 3, 2004	English I EOCEP
February 18, 2004	SCRA, Grades PreK-2, and PACT, Grades 3-5

The Columbia Conference Center is located at 169 Laurelhurst Avenue off the Interstate I-26 Fernandina Road between St. Andrews Road and Piney Grove Road.

Please note that these one-day workshops will take the place of the previously scheduled January 2004 workshops for ELA Standards Implementation District Leadership Teams (DLT). In response to your requests for more information on the various state ELA assessments and their implications for instruction, we have decided to alter our original plan for professional development.

In general, the audience for each of the scheduled workshops is still the ELA standards Implementation DLT; however, there are some restrictions.

PreK-5—one person from district office, one grades PreK-2 administrator or teacher, and one grades 3-5 administrator or teacher.

Middle School—one person from the district office and two administrators or teachers from grades 6-8.

High School—one person from district office and one administrator or teacher from **each** high school in the district.

We will only accept one registration form from each district. The leader of the DLT should complete the form and submit it to Judy Redman per the instructions on the registration form by January 16, 2004. As with the other standards implementation professional development sessions, the DLT is expected to share the information it gathers at these workshops with other district staff. The registration form is attached to this newsletter.

For your convenience, we will provide beverages during the morning registration and serve a boxed lunch. To ensure that we order only the food that is required, we will need an accurate participant count prior to the meetings. During the fall ELA standards implementation workshops, a number of DLTs registered participants that did not attend the workshops. This situation resulted in the loss of significant Department funds. During these tight budget times, it is imperative that we avoid this type of waste. Your cooperation in registering participants by the registration deadline and ensuring that they attend the workshops will be greatly appreciated.

If you have questions about this information, please contact Cathy Jones by phone at 803-734-0790 or by e-mail at cjones@sde.state.sc.us. We are delighted to be able to offer these workshops and hope that you will find them helpful as you implement the 2002 ELA standards and prepare for the 2004 state assessments.

*The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.*

Fill Your Classroom with Cool Books

The South Carolina Department of Education is pleased to continue its partnership with the R.L. Bryan Company as sponsors of the Cool Books program.

Cool Books is a fun reading initiative designed to develop a partnership among schools, businesses, and community organizations for the specific purpose of furnishing prekindergarten through mid-

dle school classrooms with quality, age-appropriate books for reading aloud to students. Each cooler of Cool Books contains 20-25 books for classroom libraries.

To order a cooler of Cool Books for your favorite classroom, please follow the ordering instructions attached to this issue of *Literacy Links*.

“We shouldn’t teach great books, we should teach a love of reading.”

National Middle School Association Webcasts

NMSA Webcasts are integrated online learning programs that are a convenient and economical way to get the professional development you need. All you need to participate is a computer and a telephone line. Gather your colleagues around a computer and get ready for a fun learning experience that spreads the modest cost over a number of educators.

Registration for an NMSA Webcast entitles you to

- Participation in an interactive teaching and learning session over your phone line and computer (one phone and Internet connection per registration);
- Pre-session materials and outline to help you maximize your learning;
- Participation in polling questions during the Webcast;
- Opportunity to post questions online;
- Chance to learn with other educators around the world;
- Personal copy of the complete slide presentation to assist your review and application of learning.

All webcasts begin at 4:00 P.M. Call 1-800-528-NMSA (6672) for more information. For registration information, go to <http://www.nmsa.org/development/onlinecourse.htm>.

www.nmsa.org/development/onlinecourse.htm.

Dr. Janet Allen, author of *It's Never Too Late*; *Words, Words, Words*; and *Yellow Brick Roads*, is one of the featured presenters. Her webcasts will be broadcast on the following dates:

December 9, 2003

Reading and Writing with Purpose: Building Solid Foundations for Literacy Across Content Areas

This webcast addresses critical components for creating comprehensive literacy classrooms in middle school: creating literate environments; fostering student motivation to learn; choosing appropriate resources; designing purposeful and engaging curriculum; and differentiating instruction.

February 24, 2004

Overcoming Barriers to Content Literacy: Scaffolding

Build on the foundations of content literacy with strategies that focus on critical areas for content literacy support: specialized content vocabulary; developing background knowledge for concepts; negotiating expository texts; and extending and transferring content knowledge.

Applied Academic Training for English Teachers

The Partnership for Academic and Career Teachers will meet on Monday evenings from 4:45 to 7:45 P.M., January 12-April 19, 2004. The registration deadline is December 19, 2003.

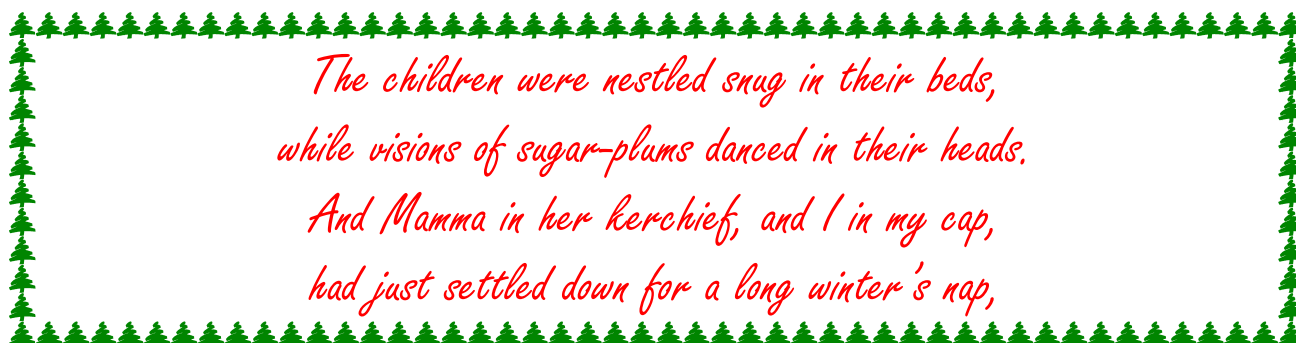
Teachers will meet on Monday evenings from 4:45 to 7:45 P.M., January 12-April 19, 2004.

For more information, call Debbie Powell at 864-646-1502. The registration deadline is December 19, 2003.

Applied Academic Training for English

The courses will be on campus at Tri-County Technical College in Pendleton,

Participants will receive graduate credit through Clemson University.



SCCTE 2004 Conference January 30, 31 in Greenville

The South Carolina Council of Teachers of English 2004 Conference on January 30-31, 2004, at the Embassy Suites in Greenville promises to be the best ever. This year's conference theme is "Bringing the Arts into the Language Arts: Enhancing Literacy and Language Arts Instruction through the Visual and Performing Arts, Media, and Film."

The conference guarantees an outstanding list of featured guests, including such internationally known speakers and artists as author Pat Conroy, education theorist Eliot Eisner, and academy award-nominated filmmaker Ross Spears. Preconference workshop presenters will be media literacy expert David Con-sidine, Caldecott and Kate

Greenaway Award Winner Gail Haley, and *Image Grammar* author Harry Noden.

For more information about SCCTE and the conference, including a printable flyer, registration form, and hotel reservation details, visit the website at www.sccte.org.



ELA Standards Best Practice Seminars

Michael Opitz will conduct the second ELA standards best practice seminar titled "Are you listening? Teach me and I will!"

that can be used to teach different levels of listening. This session is only for PreK-5 educators.

please contact Cathy Jones at 803-734-0790 or cjones@sde.state.sc.us.

The purpose of this session is to provide a rationale for teaching listening and to provide some specific teaching suggestions

A registration form for this session is attached at the end of this newsletter. If you have any questions about the seminars,

Session information and registration forms for the remaining seminars will appear in *Literacy Links* the month prior to the seminar.

Date	Presenter	Grade Bands	Location
February 11, 2004	Michael Opitz	PreK-Grade 5	South Carolina History and Archives Center
March 11, 2004	Frank Serafini	PreK-Grade 5	Columbia Conference Center
March 12, 2004	Frank Serafini	Grade 6-English 4	Columbia Conference Center
April 27, 2004	Georgia Heard	PreK-Grade 5	Columbia Conference Center
April 28, 2004	Georgia Heard	Grade 6-English 4	Columbia Conference Center

*His eyes—how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
and the beard on his chin was as white as snow.*

Be Santa Claus This Year

All too often we get caught up in the idea that more is better, but the smallest thought can make a Christmas the best ever. *ways you once thought impossible or even inappropriate.*

How to Be Santa Claus by Nick Kelsh emphasizes what it takes to be Santa Claus.

After all, is there anything more irrational than delivering a gift to every child in the world in one December night? To say nothing of your mode of transportation.

You are Santa Claus when you decide to be the person you have always been.

Being Santa is being someone else. That someone else is you.

You will eagerly look for ways to be thoughtful. You will be generous in

Go out and be Santa Claus this season. You'll feel better, and it will be a Christmas you'll never forget.

Our Favorite Christmas Books

Christmas just wouldn't be Christmas without reading a good Christmas story at some point during the holiday season. To make the selection a little easier for you, the English Language Arts team would like to recommend these books for your holiday reading. It's up to you if you chose to do a read aloud, shared reading, or silent reading, but make sure you read one of these this Christmas.

The Night Before Christmas
Clement C. Moore

The Polar Express
Chris Van Allsburg

Rocking Horse Christmas
Mary Pope Osborne

How Santa Got His Job and How Santa Lost His Job
Stephen Krensky

Welcome Comfort
Patricia Ploacco

The Tale of the Three Trees
Anglea Elwell Hunt

The Baker's Dozen
Aaron Shepard

A Christmas Memory
Truman Capote

The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey
Susan Wojciechowski

Santa's Time Off
Bill Maynard

The Teacher's Night Before Christmas
Steven L. Layne

The Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree
Gloria Houston

The Boy of the Bells
Carly Simon

Santa's Book of Names
David McPhail

Silver Packages
Cynthia Rylant



*Merry Christmas to All,
and to All a Good Night.*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ARTS TEAM
OFFICE OF CURRICULUM
AND STANDARDS
SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
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Literacy Links is a publication of the English Language Arts Team of the South Carolina State Department of Education. It is published once a month and is electronically distributed to districts and schools across the state. Any attachments to this publication will be on the pages following this page.



English
Language Arts Team

Literacy Links volume IV

The Office of Curriculum and Standards provides statewide leadership and services to schools and districts to ensure the implementation of grade-level standards-based instruction for all students.

We accomplish this by:

- developing and revising academic standards and expanding support materials;
- promoting the use of effective evidence-based instructional practices by schools and districts; and
- facilitating the implementation of programs, projects, grants, and activities that support standards-based instruction

**South Carolina Education Related
Events and Conferences
2003-2004**

(as of August 8, 2003)

DECEMBER

2-4 Gifted Education State Conference, Hyatt Regency, Greenville

15-16 SC Literacy Conference, Charleston Place, Charleston

Center, Myrtle Beach

20-21 SC Foreign Language Teachers Association Conference, Sheraton, Columbia

28-31 Environment and the Economy Institute, Charleston Harbor Resort, Charleston

JANUARY

9-11 SC Alliance of Black School Educators, Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach

14-16 SCASA Elementary Principals Winter Conference, Sheraton, Columbia

21-23 SCASA Superintendents, Personnel, & Allied Administrators' Winter Conference, Embassy Suites, Columbia

30-31 SC Council for the Teachers of English Conference, Embassy Suites, Greenville

MARCH

5-7 SC Middle School Association Annual Conference, Convention Center, Myrtle Beach

19 Social Studies Coordinator's Meeting, TBA, Columbia

26 Upstate Schools Consortium Leadership Series, Furman University, Greenville

APRIL

2 SC Geographic Bee, State Museum, Columbia

FEBRUARY

5-8 SC Music Educators In-Service Conference, TBA, Charleston

19-21 SC International Reading Association Conference, Convention

MAY

No meetings at this time

Registration Form

English Language Arts Curriculum Standards Best Practice Seminars

Seminar 2: *Are you Listening? Teach Me and I Will!*

with Dr. Michael Opitz

February 11, 2004

The purpose of this session is to provide a rationale for teaching listening and to provide some specific teaching suggestions that can be used to teach different levels of listening.

This seminar is for teachers and administrators in prekindergarten through grade five **ONLY**.

Each district may send three people to this session. A waiting list will be started if all slots are not filled.

Instructions: To register for this seminar, please complete this form and mail it and a ***check made payable to SCIRA for \$50.00*** to Judy Redman at Post Office Box 10101, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731. Payment is due with registration. No purchase orders will be accepted. Participation will be on a first-come with check, first-served basis. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to registrants with directions and details for the seminar. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider yourself registered. **If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at jredman@comporium.net.** If you have any questions concerning the seminar, contact Cathy Jones at 803-734-0790 or cjones@sde.state.sc.us.

THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRTION IS JANUARY 19, 2004.

Please provide the following information.

Name _____

Position _____ Grade _____

District _____

School _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Fax (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Home Address _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Fax (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Registration Form

ELA Curriculum Standards and Assessment Workshop Series

Instructions: To register for the workshop series, complete one registration form per district and submit it by mail, fax, or e-mail no later than January 16, 2004, to the following address:

Judy Redman
Post Office Box 10101
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731

Fax: 803-329-1952
E-mail: jredman@comporium.net

A confirmation e-mail will be sent to each person whose name is listed on this registration form. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail from Ms. Redman, do not consider yourself registered. If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at jredman@comporium.net. If you have any questions concerning the workshops contact Cathy Jones at 803-734-0790 or cjones@sde.state.sc.us.

District	
District Contact	
E-mail	

- ☐ **January 28, 2004**
HSAP, Grades 9-12

Each district may register 1 district office staff member and 1 representative from each district high school to attend this workshop.

District Office Representative	
Position	
E-mail	
High School Representative	
High School	
Position	
E-mail	
High School Representative	
High School	
Position	
E-mail	

(If your district has more than 1 high school, simply key in the name of a representative from each high school by adding more rows to the table.)

☐ **January 29, 2004**
PACT, Grades 6-8

Each district may register 3 people only to attend this workshop.

District Office Representative	
Position	
E-mail	
Grade 6–8 Representative	
School	
Position	
E-mail	
Grade 6–8 Representative	
School	
Position	
E-mail	

☐ **February 3, 2004**
English I EOCEP

Each district may register 1 district office staff member and 1 representative from each district high school to attend this workshop.

District Office Representative	
Position	
E-mail	
High School Representative	
School	
Position	
E-mail	
High School Representative	
School	
Position	
E-mail	

(If your district has more than 1 high school, simply key in the name of a representative from each high school by adding more rows to the table.)

❑ **February 18, 2004**

SCRA, Grades PreK–2 and PACT, Grades 3–5

Each district may register 3 people only to attend this workshop.

District Office Representative	
Position	
E-mail	
Grades PreK–2 Representative	
School	
Position	
E-mail	
Grades 3–5 Representative	
School	
Position	
E-mail	

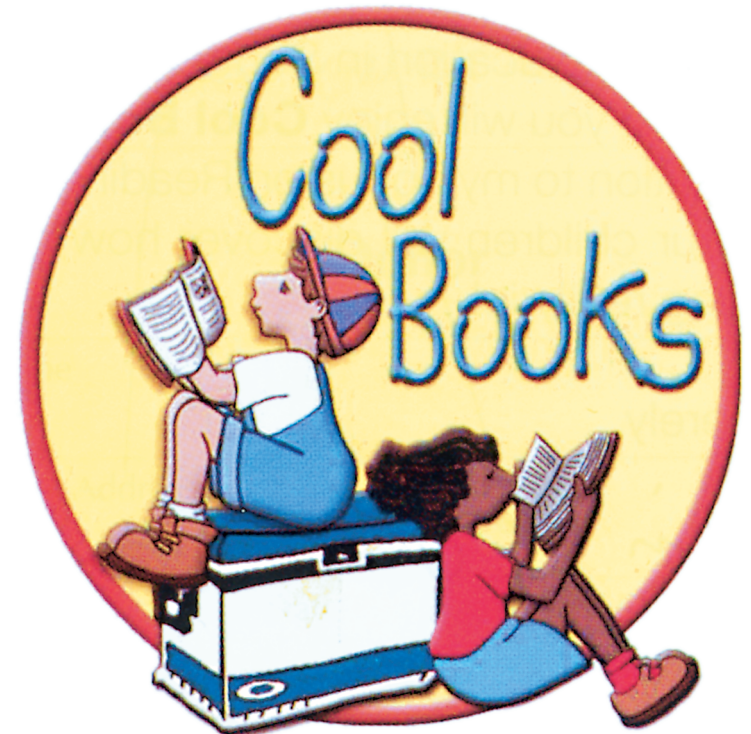
Instructions: To order a **Cool Books** cooler for a classroom, please complete this form and mail it directly with a check for \$150.00 made payable to The R.L. Bryan Company. School credit cards are accepted. Mail your order form and check to the attention of Joan Stevenson at The R.L. Bryan Company, 301 Greystone Blvd., Columbia, SC 29210.

Teacher's Name
Grade/Subject
School
School Address (No PO Boxes)
District

Name		
Street Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Phone	Fax	
E-Mail Address		
<input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard		

	MO/YR

The R.L. Bryan Company
and the
South Carolina
Department of Education
present



What is Cool Books?

Cool Books is a fun reading initiative designed to develop a partnership among schools, businesses, and community organizations for the specific purpose of furnishing individual prekindergarten through middle school classrooms with quality, age-appropriate books. Each cooler will contain from twenty to twenty-five books for classroom read-aloud libraries.

Corporate Sponsors

The **R.L. Bryan Company**, "The House of Quality," has served schools and teachers since 1844. It donated a generous amount of time and resources to make the vision of **Cool Books** a reality.

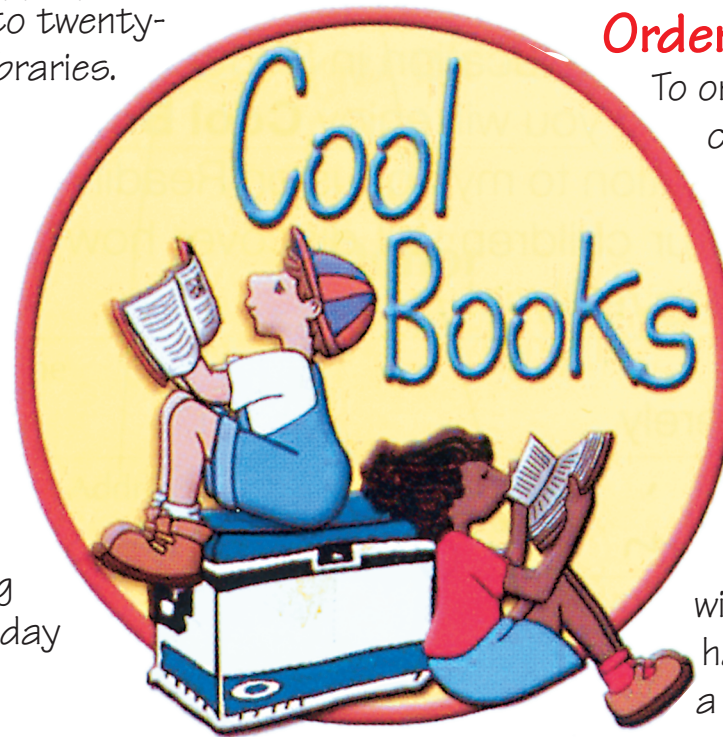
State Farm Insurance recognizes the importance of education in helping people not only to manage their everyday lives but also to realize their dreams.

Initial Contributor

The **Hootie and the Blowfish Foundation Fund** was established in 2000 in conjunction with the Central Carolina Community Foundation to benefit children in South Carolina through education.

How can I participate?

Tear off the order form and mail it today to join others who are making a difference in our schools by furnishing students with classroom read-aloud libraries.



Ordering Instructions

To order a **Cool Books** cooler for a classroom, please complete the order form with a check enclosed for \$150.00 made payable to The R.L. Bryan Company. Send your check and order form to the attention of Joan Stevenson at The R.L. Bryan Company.

Once The R.L. Bryan Company has received the order, a cooler of books will be shipped to the classroom you have designated. If you wish to order a cooler for more than one classroom, you will need to use a separate order

form for each cooler.

We appreciate your participation in South Carolina's **Cool Books** campaign to build classroom libraries.